

**Amendments to the Abstract**

Please replace the Abstract as follows so that the Abstract reflects the allowed claims:

**Abstract:**

~~A system, method and article of manufacture are provided~~The present disclosure provides for  
affording an information portal in a contract manufacturing framework. First, a database  
including a plurality of service provider data structures is provided, wherein each service  
provider data structure includes a description of a particular service provider, and wherein the  
database further includes a plurality of links to information. Then, a particular service provider  
data structure is identified based on request data from a user. A particular link is identified based  
on the request data. The user is then sent the identified service provider data structure and the  
identified link. Finally, the user is allowed to obtain additional information utilizing the  
identified link.